

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are all the claims pending in the application.

Drawings

The Examiner has not acknowledged receipt or indicated approval of the Formal Drawings filed on January 8, 2002. Applicant respectfully requests such acknowledge in the next Office Action.

Information Disclosure Statement

In addition, although the Examiner signed the PTO-1449 form, the references have not been initialed. Applicant requests a correct initialed form from the Examiner in the next Office Action.

Specification

The Specification is objected to because of informalities. Applicant amends the specification to remove any ambiguities. A Substitute Specification and Redline Specification is being filed herewith.

Claims

Claims 5, 9 and 17 are objected to because of informalities. Applicant amends the claims to correct these errors.

Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Applicant amends the claims to remove any ambiguities.

Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Kaneko (5,236,147).

Analysis

Claims 1, 6 and 15 are the only claims in independent form; therefore, the following discussion is initially directed to these independent claims.

Kaneko is directed to a fishing reel with a line length measuring device. This reference does not teach or suggest an informing device that displays fishing information, a receiver for receiving a signal from a transmitter that includes the fishing information, and a controller for controlling the informing device with the fishing information.

Although Kaneko includes a display 5, the display only displays line length and total number of spool rotations 5a, an input indicator 5b and a mode indicator 5c. Each of these types of information is obtained from the fishing reel itself; there is no fishing information that is transmitted to the fishing reel.

In the present invention, the informing device displays fishing information that has been sent by signal from a transmitter to a receiver. Kaneko does not teach or suggest this feature. Kaneko is not directed to a fishing reel that is capable of receiving any transmitted information via a receiver.

The received fishing information in the present invention is important for integrating with the data obtained from the sensors on the fishing reel itself. For instance, tidal currents, water

temperatures, etc., are provided to the angler via the informing device as it has been transmitted from a remote location such as a fishing boat captain. This fishing information is important to the angler so that he can position the tackle appropriately to effectively catch fish.

Claim 1 is directed to a receiver for receiving a signal which includes such fishing information transmitted from a transmitter, and the subsequent handling of such fishing information by a controller. Kaneko fails to teach or suggest this feature, and thus, claim 1 is patentable.

Claim 6 is directed to a receiver for receiving fishing information from an outside of the fishing reel, and the subsequent handling of this information by an informing device and computer. Since Kaneko fails to teach or suggest this feature, claim 6 is also patentable.

Finally, claim 15 is directed to a fishing system that includes a transmitter for transmitting fishing information, and a fishing reel that includes a receiver for receiving such fishing information from the transmitter. Since Kaneko is silent with respect to a transmitter, as well as a receiver as discussed above, claim 15 is patentable.

The remaining rejections are directed to the dependent claims. These claims are patentable for at least the same reasons as claims 1, 6 and 15, by virtue of their dependency therefrom.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U.S. Appln. No. 09/961,206

Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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WASHINGTON OFFICE



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